

THE PRAISE,
ANTIQUITY,
and commodity, of
Beggery, Beggars, and
Begging.

By JOHN TAYLOR.

Beggars Bush.

A Wandering Beggar.

A gallant Begger.



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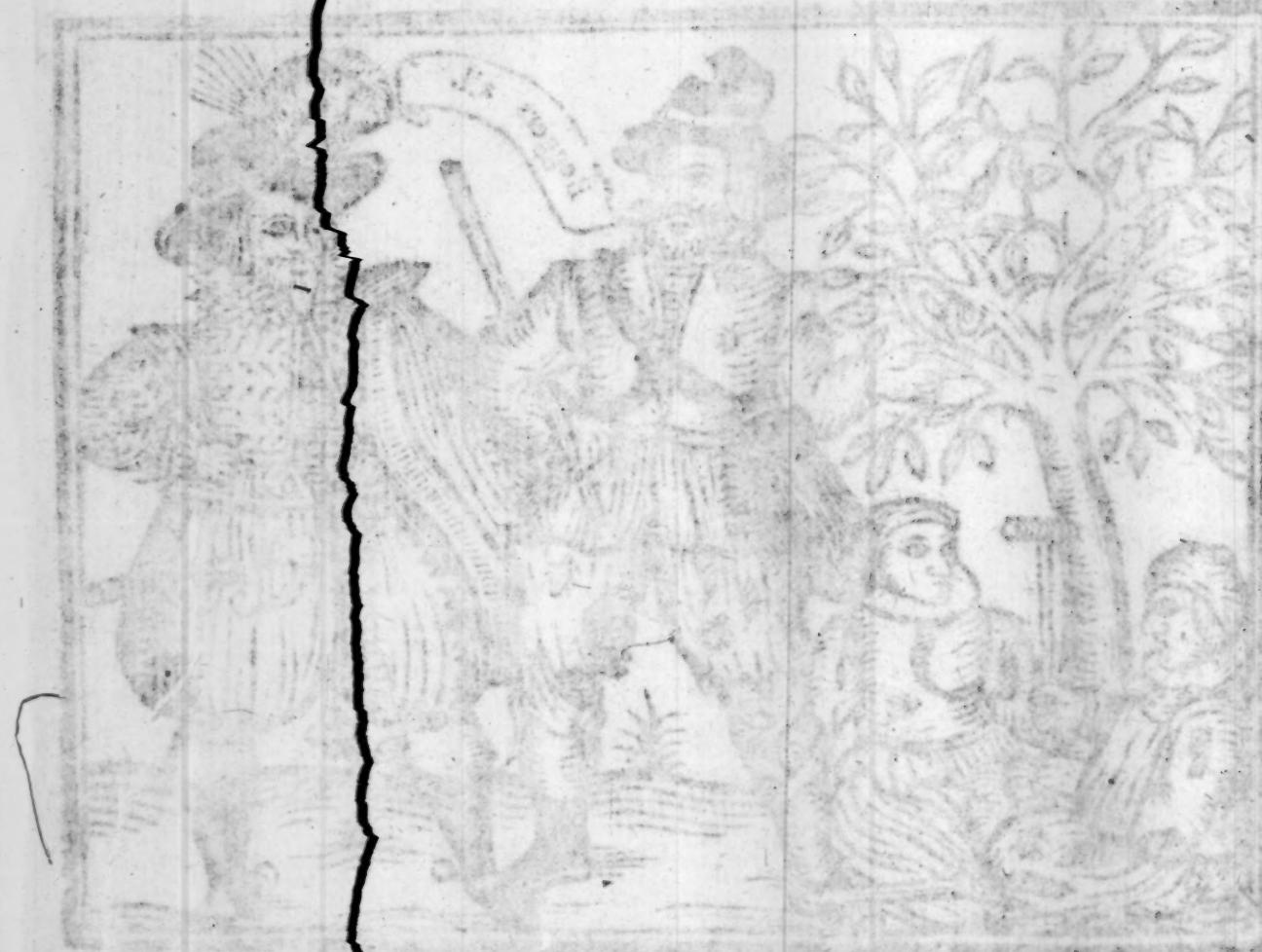
ANTIQUA
PRAES

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TO THE BRIGHT EYE-
DAZELING MIRROVR OF MIRTH,
Adelantado of Alacrity, the Pump of pastime, spout
of sport, and Regent of ridiculous Confabu-
lations, ARCHIRALD ARMSTRONG,
alias the Court ARCHY.

Nuie and Hate are such daily followers, and dead-
ly enemies, of the wise, honest, and vertuous, that
my hope is, that they will never doe you wrong or
inurie: And my beliefe is, that (as you haue euer)
you will awayes carie your selfe so worthily in all
your actions, that your best deserts shall neither merrit envie or
hatred. I haue heere made bold to present to your illiterate pro-
tection, a beggerly Pamphlet of my thred-bare inuention: I doe
assure you that I was more troubled in studying where to finde a
fit Patron, then I was in writing the Booke; I thought to haue
dedicated it to Eggers Bush neare Andeuer, or to his Haw-
thorne brother within a mile of Huntington: but I confide-
red at last, that the laps of your long Coate could shelter me
as well & better then any beggerly Thorne-bush. I did once de-
dicate a Booke to your patronage, of the supposed drowning of
M. Thomas Coriat, and I did also dedicate three small Treas-
ties to a Leash of Knights; and because you all fōure make a
well match'd Murniuall of Patrons, (for you all alike very illi-
berally put your hands in your pockets, and to make your monies
euer, gaue me nothing:) It makes me the bolder at this time to
come uponyou againe, not doulting but your bauity will require

A Gleek.

The Epistle Dedicatore.

my loue and paines with as much more. It may be that your high affaires (wherein you are continually pestered with needleſſe imployments) rubs your minde quite from the Byas, that you doe not ſee in what a declining predicament your owne ſometimes eſteemed quality is: for the dayes hath beene that many men kept Footeſ but now (to ſave that charge) the moſt part of ſuſh Benefactors perorme the functione themſelues: So that if you take not a ſpeedy order, fooling will bee as common as beggiing or whore-maifters, and the ſight or preſence either of your worthy ſelfe, or any of your long-taile tribe (which was wont to be ſeene and heard with admiration) will be no more regarded. To preuent which, I wou'd counſell you to make a Corporation of fooling, and that none ſhall intrude into the ſociety heereafter, but ſuch as ſhall be Apprentizes to the quility, of which thofe that are now living, to contribute toward the building or purhaſing of a Hall, your ſelfe (during your life) to be perpeuall Maiftor of the Company. I heare that the valarous Sir Thomas, Knight of the Sunne, hath had ſuch a project in his head, and hath reſumed to petition for himſelfe, to haue the ſole approbation of all authorized Fooles and Buffones. But for aught I ſee, you neede not feare that he will preuent you in this Monopoly, bee being to farre from the ſufficiencie of a generall ſuper-intendant that he is eſteemed unworthy to be a ſetter up of the trade: for mine owne part, a Beadles place is onely my ambition, to whip those out of the ſociety that are milapert fooles, ſarcie fooles, prodigall fooles, courteous fooles, proud fooles, counterfait fooles, or any one that is more knaue then Foole. A ar of Bridewell would ſerue fitly for a Hall, and the Armes of the brotherhood ſhall be an Asses head Dormant, in a field Gules, with a Bable and three Coxcombs rampant, and two morice-bels pendant, with a whip paſſant leuant for the Crest, the Escutcheon mantled with powdered Vermine. This if you pleafe to take in

The Epistle Dedicatore.

in hand, no doubt but the worke will be meritorious and notori-
ous, and as the Romane Emperours Nero, Caligula, and He-
liogabelus, are as famous for their acts, lines, and deathes, as
the good Augustus, Alexander, Seuerus, and Marcus Au-
relius: So shall you be remembred in succeeding ages beyond the
memory of Scoggin, or worthy Will Summers. I pray you
be not angry that I doe not salute you with the flattering Epehites,
of honest, courteous, friendly, louing, or kinde; for as yet you
neuer gaue mee occasion to doe you any such iniurie: I protest
Sir, I doe loue you with that affection as is correspondent to the
vaccuity of your Worthinesse, and I am assured that at all times
you will stand my friend in word or deede, for as much as comes
to an unbaked Tabacco-Pipe. In which assurance I kisse your
hand as innocent as the new borne Babe, or Lamb in the Cradle,
and shall euer wish you a nimble tongue, to make other mens
money runne into your Purse, and quicke heeles to out-runne the
or Hue and crie, if occasion require.

He that admires your
vnparrallelable parts, and
wisheth the reuersion
of your gaines rather
then your Office:

John Taylor.

The Bigle Dedication.

Passadi et al.

Office of the Secretary of State
Michigan State Legislature
and the State Board of Education

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THE PRAISE, ANTI- QVITY, AND COMMODITY

of Beggerie, Beggers,
and Begging.

Begger from an Antient house begins,
Old Adams sonne, and heire vnto his sins: Antiquity of
Beggers.
Her And as our father *Adam* did possesse
The world, there's not a Begger that hath vniuersalitie.
For wherof is the world compact and fram'd *lesse*.
But Elements, which to our fence are nam'd,
The Earth, the Ayre, the Water, and the Fire, Earth.
With which all liue, without which all expire.
These, euery Begger hath in plenteous store,
And euery mighty Monarch hath no more.
Nor can the greatest Potentate aliue,
The meanest Begger of these things deprive. Ayre.
The Earth is common, both for birth or Graues,
For Kings, and Beggers, Free-men, and for Slaues: Water.
And a poore Begger as much Ayre will draw,
As he that could keepe all the world in awe.
The Water, be it Riuers, Seas, or Spring,
'Tis equall for a Begger as a King.
And the Celestiall Sunne's bright fire, from Heaven Fire.
'Mongst all estates most equall is giuen.

The Begger.

If these elements could bee bought and sold, the poore beggers should haue small roome for birth, life, or buriall.

Giui'n not to be ingrost, or bought, nor sold,
For gifts and bribes, or base corrupting gold.
These things nor poore or rich, can sell nor buy,
Free for all liuing creatures, till they dye.

An Emperour, a great command doth beare;
But yet a Begger's more secure from feare.

A King may vse disports (as fits the season)
But yet a Begger is more safe from Treason.

A Prince (amidst his cares) may merry be,
But yet a Begger is from flatt'ners free.

A Duke, is a degree magnificent,
But yet a Begger may haue more content.

A Marquesse, is a title of great fame,
A Begger may offend more, with lesse blame.

An Earle, an honourable house may keepe,
But yet a begger may more soundly sleepe.

A Vizecount may be honour'd and renound,
But yet a begger's on a surer ground.

A Barron, is a Stile belou'd and Noble,
But yet a begger is more free from trouble.

A Knight, is good (if his deserts be such)
But yet a begger may not owe so much.

A good Esquire is worthy of respect,
A begger's in lesse care, though more neglect.

A Gentleman, may good apparell weare,
A begger, from the Mercers booke is cleare.

A Seruving-man that's young, in older yeares soone
Of proues an aged begger, it appeares.

These all degrees and sta'es, what're they are,
With beggers happinesse cannot compare.

Heau'n is the roofe that Canopies his head,
The cloudes his Curtaines, and the earth his bed,

The

The Begger.

The Sunne his fire, the Starre's his candle light, · qgsdO
The Moone his Lampe that guides him in the night. hsh
When scorching Sol makes other mortals sweat, sol baA
Each tree doth shade a begger from his heat: lab ariqA
When nipping Winter makes the Cow to quake, 10082
A begger will a Barne for harbour take, lab ariqA
When Trees and Steeples are o're-turn'd with winde, A
A begger will a hedge for shelter finde: lab ariqA
And though his inconueniences are store, deam: 1107
Yet still he hath a salue for eu'ry sore, manning or 1071
He for new fashions, owes the Tayler nothing, ydri 1071
Nor to the Draper is in debt for cloathing: 1071 03 bna
A begger, doth not begger or deceaue
Others, by breaking like a bankrupt Knaue.
He's free from shoulder-clapping Sergeants clawes, liw 1
He's out of feare of Enuies canker'd iawcs: 1071 03 bna
He liues in such a safe and happy state, 1071 03 bna
That he is neither hated, nor doth hate. lab ariqA
None beares him malice, rancour, or despigne, 1071 0wT
And he dares kill, those that dare him back-bite. 1071 0wT
Credit he neither hath or giues to none, lab ariqA
All times and seasons, vnto him are one: 1071 03 bna
He longs not for, or feares a quarter day, lab ariqA
For Rent he neither doth receiue or pay. lab ariqA 1107
Let Nation against Nation warres denounce, 1071 03 bna
Let Cannons thunder, and let Muskets bounce: 1071 03 bna
Let armies, armies, force' gainst force oppose, lab ariqA
He nothing feares, nor nothing hath to lose. 1071 03 bna
Let Townes and Towres with batt'ry be o're-turn'd, 1071 03 bna
Let women be deflowr'd and houses burn'd: 1071 03 bna
Let men fight pell-mell, and loose life and lim, 1071 03 bna
If earth and skies escape, all's one to him. 1071 03 bna

The Begger.

O happy begg'ry, euery liberall Art
Hath left the thanklesse world, and takes thy part:
And learning, conscience, and simplicity,
Plaine dealing, and true perfect honesty,
Sweet Poetry, and high Astronomy,
Musickes delightfull heau'nly harmony,
All these (with begg'ry) most assuredly
Haue made a friendly league to liue and dye.
For Fortune hath decreed, and holds it fit,
Not to giue one man conscience, wealth, and wit:
For they are portions which to twaine belong,
And to giue all to one were double wrong,
Therefore although the Goddesse want her eyes,
Yet in her blinded bounty she is wisc.
I will not say, but wealth and wisedome are
In one, ten, or in more, but 'tis most rare:
And such men are to be in peace or warre,
Admir'd like black Swans, or like blazing Starres.
Two sorts of people fills the whole world full,
The witty Begger, and the wealthy Gull:
A Scholler, stor'd with Arts, with not one crosse,
And Artlesse *Naball* stor'd with Indian dross.
I haue seene learning tatter'd, bare and poore,
Whil'st Barbarisme hath domineerd with store:
I haue knowne knowledge, in but meane regard,
Whil'st Ignorance hath rob'd it of reward:
And witless Coxcombs, I haue heard dispute,
Whil'st profound Judgements must be dumb and mute.
Apollo with aduice did wisely grant,
That Poets should be poore, and lie in want:
And though plaine Beggers they doe not appeare,
Yet their estates doth shew their kin is neare.

Wit, wisedome, wealth,
and conscience, are not
usually here-
detary, or in
one man.

The Begger.

Parnassus Mount is fruitlesse, bare and sterill,
And all the Muses poore in their apparell:

The barren-
nesse of Par-
nassus.

Bare legg'd, and footed, with disheuel'd haire,
Nor Buskins, Shooes, or Head-tires for to weare.
So farre they are from any shew of thrift,
They scarce haue e're a smock themselues to shif.

Homer, that was the Prince of Poetry,
Was a blinde Begger, and in pouerty :
And matchlesse Ouid, (in poore wretched case)

The pouer-
y or beggery of
the Muses.

Exil'd from *Rome* to *Pentus* in disgrace.

And *Manthan Maro*, * for some space in *Rome*,

* Virgill, hee
was borne in
a ditch, and
afterward be-
ing in *Rome* in
seruice with
*Augustus Ce-
sar*, to whom
hee many
times gaue
learned ver-
ses, and the
Emperour al-
wayes rewar-
ded him with
bread.

Was to *Augustus* but a Stable Groome :

His verses shew he had a learned head,

Yet all his profit was but bread and bread.

A Lowse hath sixe feete, from whose creeping sprawl'd

The first Hexameters, that euer crawl'd :

And euer since, in mem'ry of the same,

A Lowse amongst the Learned is no shame.

Then since the * mountaines barren Muses bare,

And Prince of Poets had a Beggers share :

Since their blinde Soueraigne was a Begger poore,

How can the Subiects but be voyd of store?

What are their figures, numbers, types and tropes,

But Emblems of poore shadowes, and vaine hopes.

Their allegories, similies, allusions,

Threed-bare, doe end in beggerly conclusions :

Nor can their Comedies and Tragedies,

Their Comitragy, Traggecomedies,

No pastorall preterplupastorall,

Their Morall studies, and Historicall,

Their sharp I-ambick, high Heroick Saphique,

And all wherewith their painefull studies traffique :

A Lowse the
ground of the
first Hexa-
meters.

* Parnassus.

The Begger. P

All theſe cannot allow a meaues complicate, ^{Men and wome}
To keepe them out of Debt with Cloathes and meate. A
And though a Poet haue th' accomplish'd partes
Of Learning, and the Axiomes of all Artes: ^{Men and wome}
What though he ſtudy all his braines to dust, ^{Men and wome}
To make his Fame linmortall, and not rust, ^{Men and wome}
Reuoluing day by day and night by night, ^{Men and wome}
And waste himſelfe in giuing others light, ^{Men and wome}
Yet this ^{is} all the Guerdon he ſhall haue, ^{Men and wome}
That begg'ry will attend him to his Graue. ^{Men and wome}
He (in his owne Conceit) may haue this blifſe, ^{Men and wome}
And ſing *My minde to me a Kingdome is.* ^{Men and wome}
But 'tis a Kingdome wanting forme or matter, ^{Men and wome}
Or ſubſtance, like the Moonfhine in the water. ^{Men and wome}
* *Cinif. Marlo.* For as a learned * Poet wrote before, ^{Men and wome}
Groſſe Golde runnes headlong from them, to the Bore; ^{Men and wome}
For which this vnauyded Vow Ile make, ^{Men and wome}
To loue a Begger for a Poets ſake. ^{Men and wome}
I that ne're dranke of *Ag ganippeſ Well,* ^{Men and wome}
That in *Parnassus* Suburbes ſcarce doe dwell, ^{Men and wome}
That neuer tasted the *Pegaffian Spring,* ^{Men and wome}
Or Tempe, nor e're heard the Muses ſing, ^{Men and wome}
I (that in Vearſe) can onely Rime and in matter ^{Men and wome}
Quite from the purpose, Method, or the matter. ^{Men and wome}
Yet ſome for friendſhip, Ignorance, or pitty ^{Men and wome}
Will ſay my lines may paſſe, indifferent, pritty: ^{Men and wome}
And for this little, Itching, Vearſing vaine, ^{Men and wome}
With me the Begger vowed he will remaine. ^{Men and wome}
But if I could but once true Poētry win, ^{Men and wome}
He would ſticke close to me, as is my Skin. ^{Men and wome}
And ſure if any man beneath the Sky, ^{Men and wome}
Had to his Nurſe a Witch, it muſt be I, ^{Men and wome}
For

. The Begger.

For I remember many yeares agoe, *How I gan hym on*
When I would Cry, as Children vse to doe: *also*
My Nurse to still me, or to make me cease, *also*
From crying, would say hush lambe, prey thee peace.
But I (like many other froward boyes) *and*
Would yaul, and baule, and make a wawling noyse, *also*
Then shee (in anger) in her armes would snatch me, *so*
And bid the Begger, or bulbegger catch me, *also*
With take him Begger, take him would she say, *also*
Then did the Begger such hard hold fast lay *on* *his* *hand* *and*
Vpon my backe, that yet I never could his stode red, *also*
Nor euer shall inforce him leaue his hold, *also*
The reason therefore why I am not Rich, *also*
I thinke is, cause my Nurse was halfe a witch, *also*
But since it is decreed that I must be, *also*
A begger, welcome begg'ry vnto me, *also*
Ile patiently embrace my destinid Fate, *also*
And liue as well as some of higher Rate, *also*
Yet shall my begg'ry no stange Suites devise, *also*
As Monopolies to catch Fleas or Elyes: *also*
Or the Sole making of all Butchers pricker, *also*
Or Corkes for bottles, or for every sixe, *also*
Smelt, Seacrab, Flounder, Playee, or Whiting mōp, *also*
One, as a Duty vnto me to drop, *also*
Nor to marke Cheeses, Ile not beg at all, *also*
Nor for the Mouse-trap Geometricall, *also*
Nor will I impudently beg for Land, *also*
Nor (with Ambition) beg to haue Command: *also*
Or meate, or cloathes, or that which few men g̃ue, *also*
Ile never beg for money whilst I liue, *also*
Yet money I esteem a precious thing, *also*
Because it beares the picture of my King, *also*

The Begger.

Vnto my King I will a seruant be,
And make his pictures seruants vnto me.
One only Beggar euer I le embrase,
Ile beg for grace, of him that can giue grace,
Who all thinges feedes and fils, and over-seeth,
Who giues, and casteth no man in the teeth.
So much for that, now to my Theame againe,
What vertues Begg'ry still doth entartaine.
First amongst Beggers, there's not one in twenty,
Put hath the Art of memory most plenty:
When those that are possesst with riches store
(If e're they were in Beggers state and poore)
They quite forget it, and will euer hate
The memory of any Beggers state.
For fortune, fauour, or benignity,
May rayse a Begger vnto Dignity:
When like a bladder, puffed with pride and pelfe,
Hee'l neither know his betters, nor himselfe,
But if a Begger hath bin wealthy euer,
He from his minde puts that remembrance neuer.
And thus if it be Rightly vnderstood,
A beggers Memory is euer good,
Nor he by Gluttony, or swinish surfeit,
Doth purchase Sicknes with his bodies forfeit.
On bonds or bills, he borrowes not, or lends,
He neither by extortiōn gets or spends.
No Vſury he neither takes or giues:
Oppresse he cannot, yet opprest he liues.
Nor when he dyes, he leavies no wrangling heires.
To lose by Law that which was his or theirs,
Men that are blinde in Iudgement may see this,
Which of the Rich, or Beggers hath most blisse.

On

The Begger.

On which most pleasure, Fortune seemes to hurle,
The Lowsie begger, or the gowty Churle:
The Ragged begger sitting in the Stocks,
Or the Embrodered Gallant with the Pocks.
A Begger euery way is *Adams* Son,
For in a Garden *Adam* fist begun:
And so a Begger euen from his birth,
Doth make his Garden the whole entire Earth.
The fieldes of Corne doth yeeld him straw and bread
To Feed and Lodge, and Hat to hide his head:
And in the stead of Cut-throat slaughtering Shambles,
Each Hedge allowes him Berryes from the brambles.
The Bullesse, hedge Peake, Hips and Hawes, and Sloes,
Attends his appetite where e're he goes:
As for his Sallets, better neuer was,
Then acute Sorrell, and sweet three leau'd Grasse,
And as for Sawce he seldome is at Charges,
For euery Crabtree doth affoord them Vergis.
His basket, somtimes is greene Beanes and Peason,
Nuts, Peares, Plumbes, Apples, as they are in season.
His musicke waytes on him in euery bush,
The Mauis, Bulfinch, Blackbird and the Thrush:
The mounting Larke, sings in the lofty Sky,
And Robin Redbreast makes him melody.
The Nightingale chants most melodiously,
The chirping Sparrow, and the chattering Pye.
My neignbhour Cuckow, alwayes in one tune,
Sings like a Townsman still in May and June.
These feather'd Fidlers, sing, and leape and play,
The begger takes delight, and God doth pay.
Moreouer (to accomplish his Content)
There's nothing wants to please his sight or sent.

The Begger.

The Earth embrodered with the various hew
Of Greene, Red, Yellow, Purple, Watchet, Blew :
Carnation, Crimson, Damaske, spotles White,
And euery colour that may please the sight.
The odoriferous Mint, the Eglantine,
The Woodbine, Primrose, and the Cowslip fine,
The Honisuckle, and the Daffadill,
The fragrant Time, delights the Begger still.
He may plucke Violets in any place
And Rue, but very seldome hearbe of Grace :
Hearts-ease he hath and Loue and Idle both,
It in his bones hath a continuall growth.
His Drinke he never doth goe farre to looke,
Each Spring's his Host, his Hostesse is each Brooke :
Where he may quaffe and too't againe by fits,
And never stand in feare to hurt his wits,
For why that Ale, is Grandam Natures brewing,
And very seldome sets her Guests a spewing ;
Vnmixt, and vnsophisticated drinke,
That never makes men stagger, reele and winke.
Besides a begger hath this pleasure more,
He never payes, or never goes on score :
But let him drinke and quaffe both night and day,
Ther's neither Chalke, nor Post, or ought to pay.
But after all this single-foal'd small Ale,
I thinke it best to tell a merry tale:

There was a Rich hard miserable Lord,
That kept a knauish Foole at bed and boord,
(As Great men oft affected haue such Elues,
And lou'd a Foole, as they haue lou'd themselues.)
But Nature to this Foole such vertue gaue,
Two simples in one Compound, *Foole and Knaue.*

This

The Begger,

This Noble Lord, Ignobly did oppresse
His Tenants, raising Rents to such excesse:
That they their states not able to maintaine,
They turn'd starke beggers in a yeare or twaine.
Yet though this Lord were too too miserable,
He in his House kept a well furnish'd Table:
Great store of Beggers dayly at his Gate,
Which he did feed, and much Compassionate.
(For 'tis within the power of mighty men
To make fiue hundred Beggers, and feed Ten.)
At laſt, vpon a time the Lord and's Foole,
Walk'd after Dinner their hot bloods to coole,
And ſeeing three or fourreſcore Beggers stand
To ſeekē Relief from his hard Clutched hand,
The Nobleman thus ſpake his Foole vnto,
Quoth he, what ſhall I with these Beggers doe?
Since (quoth the Foole) you for my Iudgement call,
I thinke it beſt we ſtraight wayes hang them all.
That were great pitty, then the Lord reply'd,
For them and me our Sauiour equall dy'd:
Th'are Christians (although beggers) therefore yet
Hanging's vncharitable, and vnfitt.
Tush (ſaid the Foole) they are but beggers thoē,
And thou canſt ſpare them, therefore let them goe:
If thou wilt doe, as thou haſt done before,
Thou canſt in one yeare make as many more.
And he that can picke nothing from this tale,
Then let him with the begger drinke ſmall Ale.
Thus is a Begger a ſtrange kinde of creature,
And begg'ry is an Art that liues by Nature:
For he neglects all Trades, all Occupations,
All functions, Mysterieſ, Artes, and Corporations.

The Begger.

Hee's his owne Law, and doth eu'en what he list,

And is a perfitt right *Gimnosophist*.

A Phylosophicall *Pithagoras*,

That without care his life away doth passe.

A Lawyer must for what he gets take paines,

And study night and day, and toyle his braines,

With dilligence to sift out Right from Wrong,

Writes, trauels, pleades, with hands, and feet, and tong.

And for to end Debate, doth oft debate

With Rhetoricke, and Logicke Intricate:

And after all his trauell and his toyle,

If that part which he pleads for get the foyle,

The Clyent blames the Lawyer, and the Lawes,

And neuer mindes the badnes of his Cause.

Tis better with a Begger that is Dumbe,

Whose tongue-lesse mouth doth onely vtter muum:

In study, and in care, no time he spends,

And hath his busines at his fingers ends.

Dumbe Rhetorick moues
to the
Charity.

And with dumbe Rhetoricke, and with Logicke mure,

Liues and gaines more, then many that Dispute.

If case a Begger be olde, weake or Ill,

It makes his gaines, and commings in more still;

When beggers that are strong, are paide with mocks,

Or threatened with the Cage, the VVhip, or Stocks.

The weake
Beggers haue
a great aduan-
tage ouer the
strong.

Hee's better borne then any Prince or Peere,

In's Mothers wombe three quarters of a yeaer:

And when his birth hath made her belly slacke,

Shee foure or fife yeaers, beares him at her backe,

He liues as if it were *Grim Saturnes Raigne*,

Or as the Golden age were come againe.

Vertues that More ouer many vertues doe attend

Beggers haue On Beggers, and on them doe they depend:

Humilitye.

The Begger.

Humility's a Virtue, and they are
In signe of Humblenes, continuall bare:
And Patience is a vertue of great worth,
Which any begger much expresseth forth,
I saw a Begger Rayl'd at, yet stood mute,
Before a Beadle, of but base Repute.
For Fortitude a begger doth excell,
There's nothing can his valiant courage quell:
Nor heate or colde, chylde, hunger, Famines rage,
He dares out-dare Stocks, whipping-posts, or Cage.
Hee's of the greatest Temperance vnder heauen,
And (for the most part) feeds on what is giuen.
He waytes vpon a Lady, of high price,
Whose birth-place was Cœlestiall paradice.
One of the Graces, a most heauenly Dame,
And Charity's her all admired Name:
Her hand's ne're shut, her glory is in giuing,
On her the Begger waytes, and gets his living.
His State's more ancient then a Gentleman,
It from the Elder brother (*Caine*) began:
Of Runagates and vagabonds hee was
The first that wandring o're the earth did passe.
But what's a Vagabond and a Runagate?
True Annagramatiz'd I will relate:

Humility.

Patience.

Fortitude.

Temperance.

It waytes on
Charity a
worthy boun-
tiful Mistres.

Antiquity.

Beggery de-
scended from
Caine, who was
the first man
that ever was
borne, & heire
apparant to
the whole
world.

RYNAGATE,

Annagram,

AGRANT,

: OR: VAGABONDE,

Annagram,

GAVE A BOND.

And many well borne Gallants, mad and fond,
Haue with a Graunt so ofteh Gaue a Bond,

The Begger.

And wrap'd their states so in a Parchment skin,
They Vagabonds and Runagates haue bin.

Honour.

A begger's nob'ly borne, all men will yeeld,
His getting and his birth b'ing in the field :
And all the world knowes 'tis no idle fable,
To day and sware the field is honourable.

Courteſie.

A begger is most courteous when he begges,
And hath an excellent skill in making legges :
But if he could make Armes but halfe so well,
For Herauldry his cunning would excell.

Security.

A begger in great safety doth remaine,
He's out of danger to be rob'd or slaine :
In flaire and perill he is neuer put,
And (for his wealth) no thiefe his throat will cut.

Bounty.

He's farre more bountifull then is a Lord,
A world of hangers on at bed and boord :
Which he doth lodge, and daily cloath and feed,
Them and their Issue, that encrease and breed ;

Power.

For 'tis disparagement, and open wrong,

To say a begger's not a thousand strong :

Frugality.

Yet haue I seene a begger with his Many,

Come in at a Play-house, all in for one penny.

And though of creatures Lice are almost least,

Yet is a Lowse a very valiant beast.

But did not strength vnto her couragewant,

She would kill Lyon, Beare, or Elephant.

What is it that she can but she dares do,

She'l combate with a King, and stand to't to :

She's not a starter like the dust-bred-Flea,

She's a great trauailer by land and sea,

And dares take any Lady by the Rea.

She neuer from a battell yet did flye,

The Begger.

For with a Souldier she will liue and dye.
And sure (I thinke) I said not much amis,
To say a Lowse her selfe a souldier is.

An Hoast of Lice did to submission bring
Hard-harted Phareb, the Egyptian King.

But when these cruell creatures doe want meate,
Mans flesh and blood like Canibals they eate.

They are vnto the begger Natures gifts,
Who very seldome puts them to their shifts.
These are his Guard, which will not him forsake,
Till Death a course doth of his carkasse make.

A begger liues here in this vale of sorrow,
And trauels here to day, and there to morrow.

The next day being neither here, nor there:
But almost no where, and yet euery where.
He neuer labours, yet he doth expresse
Himselfe an enemie to Idlenesse.

In Court, Campe, Citie, Countrey, in the Ocean
A begger is a right perpetuall motion,
His great deuotion is in generall,
He either prayes for all, or preyes on all.

And it is vniuersally profest,
From South to North, from East vnto the West.

On his owne merits he will not relie,
By others mens good works he'll liue and die.

That begg'ry is most nat'rall all men know,
Our naked comming to the wolrd doth shew:
Not worth a simple rotten ragge, or clout,
Our seely carkasses to wrap about.

That it will is, and hath perpetuall bin,
All goe as naked out, as they came in,
We leaue our cloathes, which were our couers here,

A Begger is
no shifting
fellow.
True friend-
ship.

Beggars are
trauellers.
He is seldom
idle, though
hee neuer
works.

Deuotion.
Vniuersa-
lity.
He is a louer
of good
works.

Beggery is
naturall, and
generall to
all the world.
Beggery is
perpetuall.

For

The Begger.

For Beggers that come after vs to weare.

The genera- Thus all the world in generall beggers are,
lity of beg- And all alike comes in, and goes out bare.
gerie. It is most ne- And who so liues here in the best degree,
cessary for e- Must (every day) a daily begger bee :
very one to And when his life hath runne vnto his date,
liue and dye a Begger. He die a begger, or a reprobate.

(Good Reader, pray misconster not this case,

I mean no profanation in this place)

Then since these vertues waite on beggery,

As milde *Humility*, and *Charity*,

With Patience, Fortitude, and Courtesie,

And Temp'rance, Honour, Health, Frugality,

Security, Vniuersality,

Necessity, and Perpetuity,

And since heau'n sends the Subiect and the Prince

All Beggers hither, and no better hence,

Since begg'ry is our portion, and our lot,

Our Patrimony, birth-right, and what not :

Let vs pursue our function, let vs do

That (which by nature) we were borne vnto.

And whil'st my Muse a little doth repose,

I'll Character a Begger out in prose.

Now it followes, that I shew some part of their formes, ca-
riage, manners, and behaviour, their severall Garbs, tones,
and salutations that they acost their Clyents or Benefactours
wittall, for they can wisely, and discreetely suite their
Phrase and language, to bee correspondent to their owne
shape, and stately to whomsoeuer they begge of, as for
example suppose a Begger bee in the shape or forme
of a maunding, or wandering Souldier, with one arme,
legge,

The Begger.

leg, or eye, or some such maim; then imagine that there passeth by him some Lord, Knight, or scarce a Gentleman, it makes no matter which, then his Honour or his Worship shall be affronted in this manner:

Brave man of Honour, cast a favourable looke upon the wounded estate of a distressed Gentleman, that hath borne Armes for his Countrey in the hottest broyles of the Netherlāds, with the losse of his members; Cleueland hath felt my strength; I haue bickered with the French, at Brest & Deep; I haue past the Straights, the dangerous Gulph: the Groyne can speake my service (Right Honourable) with no lesse then two dangerous hurts hardly brought off from Bummil Leaguer, which I would unwillingly discouer to your manliness, whose belief shall be therein as much available as eye-sight. Fortune hath onely left me a tongue to beweare my losses, and one eye to be a witnesse of your noble bountie; I would be loth to weary your Lordship with the relations of my travells, to whom the storie of these warres are as familiar as to my self; your worthy liberalitie is the spurre to valour, and the saugard of his country; and in your honorable memorie my tong shall supplys the defects of my limbes, and proclaim your merit through the 17 Provinces, whither your bountie shall beare this witherd bodie, to interre it with the bloud which I left there as a pledge of my returne.

This is the martiali or decaid military kind of begging; which if he speed, then he can fit himselfe with a prayer accordingly, for the prosperitie of his liberall benefactor, as thus:

Peace be to thy loynes (Right honourable) and plentie at thy boord, oppression in the country, and extortiōn in the citie; embroder thy carkas, and keepe thy Concubine constant, that Taylers may sue to thee for worke, more then for payment,

The Begger.

ment, and Sericants may stand and gaze at thy faire progress by the Compiers, whist thy coach-mares shall whurrie them free from Attachments.

Then (after a scrub or a shrug) you must conceiue that he meetes with a Lawyer, and fitting his phrase to his language, he assaults him thus, and ioynes issue.

Humbly sh: wech to your good Worship, your poore suppliant hauing advanced his bill in the late warres of Sweaten Copenhige and Stock Holland; after Replications in particular, and Reiornders drawne, with bloudy pens and dreadfull characters, your petitioner ioynd issue in that fearfull day of hearing, at the grand cast'e of Smolesco, where he came off with the losse of his inheritance, hauing the evidence of his limbes violently rent from him, to make open passage to the ben:uolent charitie of such of such pious persons as is your good worship, for you are the true souldiers of the counr: whose warres concerne the domestique peace of our nation, as such as my selfe doth the forreine. My breeding was Gentle, Sir, and my birth English, a yonger brother, drifft up to my shifis, to auoide the foule accidents of home-bred miseries; I measured forrein paces, and was deliuera'd abroad of my breeding at home, in which estate the hand of your bountie must support me, or else calamitie will crapple ouer me, which hath no Surgeon but the gallowes, to which I hope the law will not deliuere me, seeing it carries so faire a face as the reuerend aspect of your maisterships countenance.

By this time you must suppose that his bounty being awak'd, he giues him somewhat; when with a correspondent prayer he thus takes his beneuale.

May the Termes be everlasting to thee shou man of tong, and may contentions grow and multiply, may Actions beget Actions, and Cases engender Cases as thicke as hops, may chery

The Begger.

every day of the yeare be a Shrouetuesday; let Proclamitions forbid fighting, to increase actions of battry, that thy Cassock may be three pilde, and the welts of thy gowne may not grow thredbare.

Perhaps he meetes with some countrey Farmer, or some honest Russet home-spinn plaine-dealing plow-logger, whom he assaults with a volley of lyes and brauadoes, in maner and forme following.

You shall do well to take notice (countryman and friend) that I am a soldier and a gentleman, who hauing bin made Fortunes tennis ball, was lately cast upon these coasts of my country by the mercilesse crueltie of the raging tempestuous seas, where I haue bin in that distresse that the whole Christian world durst not so much as looke on: mine Armes hath bin feared by all the enemies that euer beheld them aduanc'd, and my command hath bin dreadfull through Europe, Asia, Africa and America, from the Suns Easterne rising to his westerne declination. I was the first man that entred (despite the mouth of the cannon) into the famous city of Portuga, a citie five times greater then Constantinople, where the great Turke then kept his Seraglio, Basha Caphy, Basha Inda, and Mustapha Despot of Seruia being my prisoners, whose ransomes yeelded my sword three millions of Hungarian duckets; with which returning, thinking to make thee and the rest of my nation rich, the sh

which transported me (being overladen) tooke such a leake that she sunke, not a mortall eye being able to see one pennie of that uncountable treasure, myselfe (as you see preserued) a miserable spectacle of unfortunate chance, for getting astride upon a demyculuering of brasse, I was weather-beaten three leagues on shore, as you see, an ominous map of minquelling calamite, to the relief whereof, my fellow and friend, (for so my

The Begger.

now pouertie makes me vouchsafe to call thee) I must intreat
thy manhood, by offering a parcell of thy substance; make no
delays, Sir, for I would be loth to exercise my valour on
thee, and make thee the first Christian that should feele the
impenetrable strength and vigour of my victorious arm,
which hath doneto death so many Turks, Pagans and infidels
as cannot truly be numbered.

After all this superfluous fustian, the poore man vn-
willingly drawes and giues him some small mite, more
for feare or lying, then either for loue or charitie. His
fury being abated, he takes his leaue thus:

Faire be thy Harvest, and foule thy winter, that plentie
may fil thy barnes, and feare of scarcitie raise thy price,
may thy Landlord liue unmarrid, that thy fine may not be
raise, to buy thy new Landladie a French petticoate or a
new Blockt Beauer, nor thy renis raise to keepe her tire
in fashion.

Nuention many thousand waies could go,

To shew their variations to and fro:

For as vpon the soule of man attends,

The world, the flesh, the diuell, (three wicked friends)

So likewise hath a begger other three,

With whom his humour neuer could agree.

A Justice, to the world he doth compare,

And for his flesh, a Beadle is a snare:

But he that he of all accounts most euill,

He thinks a Constable to be the deuill.

And 'tis as easie for him as to drinke,

To blind the world, and make a Justice winke:

The Beadle (for the flesh) is little paine,

Which smart he can recouer soone againe.

A Justice of
peace is as the
world to a beg-
ger, a Beadle as
the flesh, and a
Constable as
the deuill.

A Justice will
wink or conniue
at a beggers
faults often,
partly for pity,
& partly to a-
void trouble.

A whipping wil
be soone cured.

But

The Begger.

But yet the Diuell (the Constable) a spirit,
From hole to hole that hunts him like a ferrit,
Both day and night he haunts him as a ghost,
And of all furies he torments him most.
All's one for that, though some things fall out ill,
A begger seldom rides vp Holborne hill:
Nor is he taken with a theeuish trap,
And made dispute with Doctor Stories * cap.
A common theefe, for euery groate he gaines,
His life doth venture, besides all his paines:
For euery thing he eates, or drinkes, or weares,
To lose his eares, or gaine a rope he feares.
But for a begger, be it hee or shee,
They are from all these choaking dangers free.
And though (for sinne) when mankind first began,
A curse was laid on all the race of man,
That of his labours he should lue and eate,
And get his bread by travell and by fweate:
But if that any from this curse be free,
A begger must he be, and none but he.
For euery foole most certainly doth know,
A begger doth not dig, delue, plow, or sow:
He neither harrowes, plants, lops, fels, nor rakes,
Nor any way he paines or labour takes.
Let swine be meazeld, let sheepe die and rot,
Let moraine kill the cattell, hecares not:
He will not worke and sweat, and yet hee'l feed,
And each mans labour must supply his need.
Thus without paines or care, his life hee'l spend,
And lives vntill he dies, and there's an end.

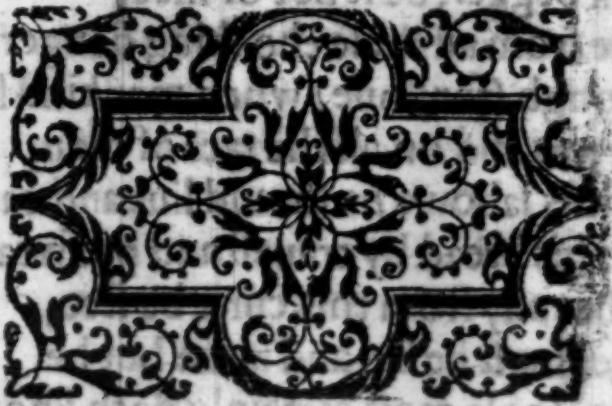
A Constable is
a Bugboare to
a begger.

* Tyburne.

The Beggar.

But I this reckning do of beggry make,
That it much better is to giue then take:
Yet if my substance will not serue to giue,
Lie (of my betters) take, with thanks, and liue.

F I N I S.



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